

Public input sought by Delaware Open Space Council regarding Open Space Program Plan

Last of three statewide public workshops set for Thursday, Feb. 23 in [New Castle County](#)

DOVER – The last of three statewide public workshops for gathering comment about Delaware's Open Space Program Plan – following amendments made last year to the state's Land Protection Act (7 Del. C. Chapter 75), and public concern about certain components of the Open Space Program – is set for Thursday, Feb. 23 at the Blue Ball Barn in Wilmington. The workshop begins at 5:30 p.m. at the Blue Ball Barn's Calving Room, 1914 West Park Drive, Wilmington, DE 19803.

The workshops – two of which were held earlier this month in Sussex and Kent counties – are intended to generate public comment on the draft outline of the Open Space Program Plan, which is now required by the amended code. The plan will include the Delaware Open Space Council's and state agencies' (including DNREC) strategies, goals, and priorities for the application of funds available for the permanent protection of land.

The Open Space Program plan also may include analysis and discussion of various creative and innovative methods to secure the permanent protection of open space land. After public comment is incorporated into the draft plan, the full Open Space Council will review it at its March 1 meeting. A final version will go to a public hearing March 8 at the Dover Public Library. The draft Open Space Program plan outline is available for review on the DNREC website:

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For more information about the plan, please call Elena Stewart, land preservation specialist, DNREC Division of Parks & Recreation, at 302-739-9935.

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Vol. 47, No. 40